



STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Seeds of Success

EIGHTH ANNUAL INDIANA DIVISION OF SUPPLIER DIVERSITY BUSINESS CONFERENCE IS SEPTEMBER 27

INDIANAPOLIS (September 14, 2016) – [Registration](#) is now open for the Eighth Annual Indiana Division of Supplier Diversity Business Conference, set for Tuesday, September 27, 2016, at the Indiana Government Center South Indianapolis, Indiana. (Map: <http://goo.gl/zKA1wz>)

The Indiana Division of Supplier Diversity Business Conference is a business networking symposium designed to assist minority- and women-owned business enterprises (MWBES) in the State of Indiana and is offered by the State of Indiana Division of Supplier Diversity.

"This year we are focused on bringing more connections and more decision makers who have the contracts our Indiana based businesses want and need," said Jessica Robertson, Commissioner, Indiana Department of Administration. "We want to increase participation from our partners who are committed to working with diverse businesses, and that is exactly what we've done."

"We have a strategic focus on the content being provided in the workshop sessions to focus on issues plaguing small businesses including access to capital. I recently read a study that concluded that while 58% of small businesses wanted and applied for credit, only 16% received the amount they wanted," said Terrie Daniel, Division of Supplier Diversity, Deputy Commissioner. "Finding financing is tough and we wanted to bring additional resources to the conference to provide options for small businesses facing challenges in gaining the funding they need to sustain and grow their business. With that said, the Minority Business Development Agency out of Washington DC has formed a new partnership agreement with Foundation Group LLC, who will be on hand at our conference to talk to Indiana based businesses about strategies and solutions available to further finance their business ventures."

The conference will feature concurrent workshops and plenary sessions to provide educational resources and tools for success to business owners. Participants will have the opportunity to network and meet procurement officials from local government agencies and private sector entities.

Workshop sessions include an exciting look at the latest business tech solutions, from Oracle; a business plan writing workshop; strategies for accessing capital; starting a business in Indiana; strategic certification; and a series of “Doing Business With” workshops featuring: Eli Lilly, Cummins, Anthem, Roche Diagnostics Corporation, Rolls Royce, Citizens Energy, Indianapolis Airport Authority, Indianapolis Power & Light Company, Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Knowledge Services, Horseshoe Casino, Hollywood Casino, Majestic Star Casino, Blue Chip Casino, Four Winds Casino and Tropicana Casino.

Indiana [Secretary of State, Connie Lawson](#) will deliver a special keynote address in the Indiana State House Atrium during the conference lunch hour. The conference will conclude with a Business-to-Business Showcase.

State certified minority- or women-owned businesses have until Monday, September 19 to [reserve exhibit space](#). For attendees, [free tickets](#) will be open to the public from now until Friday, September 23.

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The [Division of Supplier Diversity](#) acts on behalf of the State of Indiana to actively promote, monitor and enforce the standards for certification of minority-, women- and veteran- business enterprises. The division works to provide an equal opportunity to minority-, women- and veteran-business enterprises that seek to participate in the state’s procurement and contracting process. Additionally, the division provides business development and educational resources to position minority-, women- and veteran-business enterprises for growth and to add value to Indiana’s economy.